

## A Tale of Four Households

Below is a comparison of water use among four Denver Water single-family residential accounts. The first two accounts are based on historic data from Denver Water. The second two are hypothetical. For comparisons sake all accounts were assumed to be demographically identical with 2.7 people and a 8,692 square foot lot of which 4346 sq. ft. are landscaped.

|  | <b>Average 1994<br/>Denver Water<br/>Residential<br/>Account</b>                            | <b>Average 2001<br/>Denver Water<br/>Residential<br/>Account</b>                            | <b>Residential<br/>Account Meeting<br/>10% Conservation<br/>Goal</b>  | <b>Residential<br/>Account With<br/>Maximum<br/>Conservation</b>   |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <b>High summer water consumption</b>                     | 780 gallons/day   | 526 gallons/day   | 473 gallons/day   | 317 gallons/day  |
| <b>Low winter water consumption</b>                      | 221 gallons/day   | 166 gallons/day   | 149 gallons/day   | 110 gallons/day  |
| <b>Annual Water Consumption</b>                          | 152,000 gallons   | 132,000 gallons   | 118,800 gallons   | 78,000 gallons/day   |
| <b>gallons per toilet flush</b>                          | 4.5 gpf   | 3.84  | 3.84  | 1.6  |
| <b>gallons/minute showering</b>                          | 4.0 gpm   | 2.4 gpm   | 2.4   | 2.4  |
| <b>Average shower duration</b>                           | 8 Minutes   | 8 minutes   | 6 Minutes   | 4 minutes  |
| <b>gallons per laundry load</b>                          | 45 gallons  | 40 gallons  | 40 gallons*   | 20 gallons   |
| <b>Type of landscape</b>                                 | 90% of yard is Kentucky bluegrass lawn, remainder is flower beds and shrubs. 2 mature trees | 90% of yard is Kentucky bluegrass lawn, remainder is flower beds and shrubs. 2 mature trees | 90% of yard is Kentucky bluegrass lawn, remainder is flower beds and shrubs. 2 mature trees   | 35 % of yard is buffalograss lawn, remainder is xeric flower beds, shrubs and groundcovers. 2 mature trees |
| <b>hours spent per week on landscape maintenance</b>     | 1.5 hours wk, 5 hrs once/year   | 1.5 hours wk, 5 hrs once/year   | 1.5 hours wk, 5 hrs once/year   | 1.5 hours wk, 1/2 hr once/year   |
| <b>method of irrigation</b>                              | Automatic sprinkler system - no rainfall sensor installed                                   | Automatic sprinkler system - no rainfall sensor installed                                   | Automatic sprinkler system - adjusted to proper rate using Run-time Scheduler on <a href="http://www.watersaver.org">www.watersaver.org</a> | Manual irrigation (hose dragger)   |
| <b>total water applied during 26-week growing season</b> | 82,108 gallons  | 71,280 gallons  | 64,152 gallons  | 37,767 gallons   |

\* assumes washing only full loads resulting in a 10% reduction in the number of loads